

Testimony Concerning SB 253

Paula Fischer

Volunteer & Former Board Member, Our Companions Domestic Animal Sanctuary

I would like to thank the Environmental Committee for the opportunity to express my support of SB253, An Act Concerning Revisions to the Animal Importation Statutes. I am a registered voter in West Hartford, an avid animal welfare supporter and volunteer and former Board Member of Our Companions Domestic Animal Sanctuary. I care deeply for animals and the organizations that are passionate about animal rescue.

I cannot stress enough that this bill needs to be supported so that responsible individuals and rescue groups may continue their activities without the financial and logistical burden of multiple veterinary exams. This unfair treatment of people who are trying to help animals out of state is just plain wrong. While everyone recognizes that it is important for the protection of animals and people to have regulations on imported rescue animals, placing unfair burdens on the responsible people providing rescue services and saving lives, while at the same time holding absolutely no accountability for our state's own shelters, just doesn't make any sense. Connecticut municipalities don't even require so much as a rabies vaccination before dogs and cats leave our town shelters, let alone various health checks!

**I strongly urge you to support this bill which will help alleviate hardships on caring citizens and organizations who are working to protect and rescue animals.**

As a voice for the animals, I thank you!

Sincerely,

*Paula Fischer*

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